

FISCAL NOTE

HB 433 - SB 282

February 20, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Provides that the use of a false academic degree to secure employment at or admission to an institution of higher education in Tennessee is a Class A misdemeanor.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant
Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant

Impact depends upon the number of persons convicted of this offense and the resulting increased cost to local governments to confine such persons versus the increased revenues to local governments from fines levied and collected under the provisions of this bill.

Assumes no additional cost to higher education institutions since they are already checking an individual's educational background when such individual is seeking employment or admission to a higher education institution.

For information purposes: This provision is similar to current law (TCA 39-14-136) which makes it a Class A misdemeanor for buying, selling, creating, duplicating, altering or obtaining a diploma or similar record with the intent to fraudulently use the document. Records indicate that only one person has been convicted of this offense from 1996 to the present.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director